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## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT TO CELEBRATE HOMEOWNERSHIP MONTH

**ANGLETON, TEXAS, June 1, 2006** - President George W. Bush signed a Proclamation that June 2006 is National Homeownership Month. For millions of individuals and families, the American Dream starts with owning a home. When families move into a home of their own, they gain independence and confidence, and their faith in the future grows. The spread of ownership and opportunity helps give our citizens a vital stake in the future of America and the chance to realize the great promise of our country.

Bryan Daniel, State Director, for USDA Rural Development in Texas, said, "Housing Loan and Grant Programs offered by USDA Rural Development expand the viable options of homeownership to rural residents throughout Texas. Many rural Texans can benefit from USDA Rural Development Housing Programs. We invite our citizens to take advantage of these opportunities."

The local USDA Rural Development office in Angleton, which serves Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Jefferson, and Orange Counties, will be celebrating Homeownership Month with the Texas Cooperative Extension office of Fort Bend County by hosting a Housing Expo at the R.L. "Bud" O'Sheiles Community Center, 1330 Band Road, Rosenburg, Texas, on Saturday, June 3, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Exhibitors from various agencies and companies will be providing information to help families learn of the importance of the home buying process.

USDA Rural Development Housing Programs offer loans and grants to very low, low, and moderate income persons in towns and cities meeting population requirements. Programs offered assist qualified persons to buy, build, repair or maintain a home. USDA Rural Development staff will be available at the Homeownership Celebration to provide information to the public on these programs to help individuals fill out applications.

For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, please contact the Angleton local office at (979) 849-5251, Ext. 4.

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